



COUNCIL OF NEIGHBORHOODS

November 2023 Newsletter

[www.meridencon.wordpress.com](http://www.meridencon.wordpress.com)

Activities in November

- Thurs 2<sup>nd</sup>: North Meriden City Park 7pm St Peter & Paul Church
- Sat 4<sup>th</sup>: CON & NI Unit Stuff a Cruiser 10am-2pm Stop & Shop 485 Broad St
- Sun 5<sup>th</sup>: Day Light Savings Time Ends.....Make sure to change the batteries in your Smoke & CO Detectors!
- Sat 11<sup>th</sup>: Meriden’s Veterans Day Ceremony 10am Stop & Shop Plaza 485 Broad St
- Wed 15<sup>th</sup>: Dutch Hill CANCELLED
  - ECHO
  - Lower Eastside
  - Veterans
  - Hillside Gardens
- Thurs 16<sup>th</sup>: Action 13 6:30pm Immanuel Lutheran Church
  - Westiders
  - Lewis Ave
- Sat 18<sup>th</sup>: South Meriden Assocs Turkey & Toy Drive 12pm-3pm South Meriden Fire House
- Thurs 23<sup>rd</sup>: HAPPY THANKSGIVING!
- Thurs 30<sup>th</sup>: South Meriden.....Note different date for November.....6:30pm Tom’s Place
  - Glen Hills
  - Crown Village
  - Stage Coach Riders

Meriden Police Dept Tip Lines

If you have any information or tips regarding crime, narcotics, or shootings you can report them anonymously to the Meriden Police Department by either calling or emailing the following:

Major Crime Tips: Telephone (203) 630-6253 Email: [mpdtips@meridenct.gov](mailto:mpdtips@meridenct.gov)

Narcotic Tips: Telephone (203) 630-6273 Email: [mnarcoticsunit@meridenct.gov](mailto:mnarcoticsunit@meridenct.gov)

Meriden Police Dept: Calls for Service & Interactive Reports

The Meriden Police Dept is offering a new tool to keep residents apprised of the Department’s activities including the calls for service the police department responds to daily. The department is rolling out the first of the interactive reports which will be accessible on the City of Meriden website at:

[www.meridenct.gov/city-services/police/interactive-reports](http://www.meridenct.gov/city-services/police/interactive-reports)

It will be announced as new reports are released and become available on the site.

Changes to Staffing of the NI Unit: Welcome Officer Villecco!

There have been some changes to the NI Unit staffing. Officer Jeff Witkin has returned to the Patrol Division. We thank Officer Witkin for all that he has done for our neighborhoods and wish him all the best! We welcome Officer Jena Villecco as the new NI Unit Officer to the Lower East Side Neighborhood Association and surrounding area. We look forward to working with Officer Villecco! Make sure to say hello to her as you see her in our neighborhoods!

### NI Unit & Council of Neighborhoods Stuff a Cruiser Sat Nov 4<sup>th</sup> 10am-2pm

Stuff a Cruiser is being planned at the Stop & Shop Supermarket 485 Broad St. We will be collecting non-perishable food items to be donated to Meriden area Food Banks. Please stop by and support our efforts so everyone can enjoy the upcoming holidays.

### South Meriden Groups: Turkey and Toy Drive Sat Nov 18<sup>th</sup> 12pm-3pm

The Neighborhood Associations will be holding their 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Turkey and Toy Drive on Saturday Nov 18<sup>th</sup> at the South Meriden Firehouse on Camp St. Turkeys will be collected and donated to the YMCA for the Annual Thanksgiving Day Dinner. New, unwrapped, non-violent toys for children of all ages will be collected and donated the Spirit of Giving program sponsored by the Meriden Police and Fire Depts and Hunters Ambulance. For information contact Holly Wills at cwills0142@sbcglobal.net.

### City of Meriden: Extended Transfer Station Hours

The Transfer Station will be opened daily starting October 30 – December 8 for free leaves and brush disposal Monday-Friday between 7am-2pm as well as Saturday November 4, 11, 18, 25. Only leaves and brush will be accepted outside of normal Transfer Station hours which are Mon 10-2, Wed 7-12, 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat 7-12.

### Meriden's Bulky Waste Curbside Collection Program

The curbside collection program is now open for registration. Pick-ups will be available every Tuesday. The charge is \$40 for eight items or less. All items must be carryable by two people and fit in the back of a pickup truck. To view accepted items or to register for a pick-up visit [www.meridenct.myrec.com](http://www.meridenct.myrec.com) or call (203) 630-4259.

### City of Meriden Leaf Collection

The Highway Division collects leaves free-of-charge for City residents starting November 6 lasting until mid-December or unless significant snow occurs before this date. Additionally, the City does not collect leaves in the spring. Residents do not have to make any appointments. You only have to place the leaves at curbside. Leaf collection typically occurs weekly on Monday Tuesday and Wednesday. Please note that only leaves in biodegradable bags will be collected and the use of duct tape is not permitted. Please call 203-630-4018 if you have any questions.

### New Opportunities: Energy Assistance Applications

New Opportunities is announcing that the 2024

Heating Assistance Program for Meriden, Wallingford, Berlin and Southington residents is now open. Please call (203) 235-0278 to schedule an appointment to apply for the program. Also, if someone has a shut off notice from Eversource, they may "walk-in" (no appointment necessary) to New Opportunities so their staff can mediate with Eversource and work toward a solution to have the service tuned back on.

### Meriden Little Free Libraries

As we approach Thanksgiving, the Meriden Little Free Libraries network is very thankful for all those that have supported us throughout the year. We are grateful for our wonderful relationship with the Friends of the Library and the Meriden Public Library, working together we continue to increase the literacy throughout our city and citizens. We are blessed to share the wonderful books and creative artwork of Meriden's own Tomie dePaola, with the help of his family and dear friends. His legacy of storytelling has touched millions of lives locally and worldwide. Our Meriden Little Free Library network has expanded recently this year with new libraries at the Meriden Mall and Gravel Street with one more on the way. As it takes a village to raise a child, it takes stewards to make our libraries the best that they can be. This could not be done without our wonderful stewards who go out of their way to keep our libraries clean, filled with books of all ages and placing a promotion every now and then. But most of all, we are thankful for all those who use our libraries and keep them filled with books to help others to enjoy the pleasures of reading. Thank you for another successful year. Please follow us on Facebook at Meriden Little Free Libraries to get up to date info about our libraries, literacy and promotions.



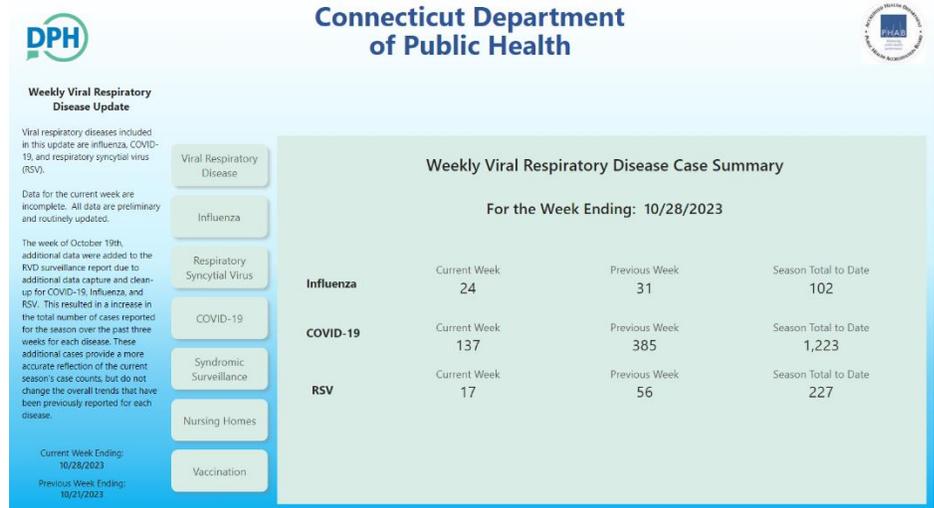
# News from the Meriden Department of Health and Human Services – November 2023

165 Miller Street \* 203-630-4226 \* [www.meridenhealth.com](http://www.meridenhealth.com)

## Respiratory

### Virus Season

The Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) conducts surveillance for COVID-19, influenza, and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV). These data help us to understand the trends associated with each disease as well as the combined impact of these respiratory illnesses, particularly during the fall and winter months. Information on Respiratory Viral Disease Surveillance can be accessed [here](#).



The most recent [update](#) shows an increase in COVID, flu, and RSV cases across the state. Vaccines are available for all 3 of these viruses; call your doctor or visit [www.vaccines.gov](http://www.vaccines.gov) to locate a provider. Also, remember good handwashing and stay home if you are sick!

### Appointment Only Flu Shot Clinics

Protect yourself and loved ones this flu season by getting your annual flu shot! Our office will be hosting appointment only flu shot clinics throughout the months of October-December on the following dates:

- ➔ November 7, 21
- ➔ December 27

Child doses are FREE for Meriden children 18 and under. We accept Medicare, Medicaid, Aetna, Connecticare, and Cigna insurances. \$20 for self-pay (\$30 for Flublok), cash or check accepted.

To make an appointment please call our Clinic at (203) 630-4234.

Meriden Department of Health and Human Services

### Get the Flu Shot, Not the Flu!

Appointment Only Flu Clinics  
165 Miller Street  
Meriden, CT 06450

Tuesdays, October 10, 24  
Tuesdays, November 7, 21  
Wednesday, December 27  
4:00 - 6:00 PM

Child doses are FREE for Meriden children 18 and under.  
• We accept Medicare, Medicaid, Aetna, Connecticare and Cigna insurances.  
• \$20 for self-pay (\$30 for Flublok), cash or check accepted

Vaccines Available:  
• Children - Flumist and Fluzone  
• Adults - FluLaval and Flublok  
• Adults 65 and older - High Dose Fluzone

To make an appointment, please call our clinic at (203) 630-4234



**Our office has a limited supply of COVID-19 home test kits. They ARE available by request - call (203) 630-4221. Masks are available in the lobby of 165 miller street Monday - Friday, 8am - 4:30pm**

### Seasonal Health and COVID-19 Newsletter

COVID-19 updates and seasonal health information are published every other week and can be found on our website: [www.meridenhealth.com](http://www.meridenhealth.com). Information includes information on flu and RSV, COVID-19 testing and vaccination information, and more!

## **Public Health Education**

### **Virtual Community Narcan® Training**

YOU can save a life and reverse an opioid overdose by administering Narcan®. Please join us in partnership with Rushford for our monthly virtual Community Narcan® Training! Trainings in 2023 will be offered on:

- November 1, 2023 9:00 – 10:00 AM
- December 6, 2023 5:30 – 6:30 PM

Participants will receive a Narcan® kit, CPR face shield, medication disposal bag, medication lock box, and more! Please register for this training by emailing Elizabeth DeMerchant at [edemerchant@meridenct.gov](mailto:edemerchant@meridenct.gov) or calling (203) 630-4288.

### **FREE In-Person QPR Suicide Prevention Training**

*Ask a Question, Save a Life*

Thursday, November 2, 2023

11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Meriden Public Library

Multi-Purpose Room 6

This group suicide prevention training is essential to suicide prevention education. You will learn:

- How to recognize the warning signs of a suicide crisis.
- How to question, persuade, and refer someone to help.

Participants will receive a certification as a QPR Gatekeeper upon completing the training.

To register please visit the Meriden Public Library's website [here](#) or scan the QR code.



### **In-Person QPR Suicide Prevention Training**

Join us in partnership with the Meriden Public Library for an In-Person QPR Suicide Prevention Training next week, November 2 at 11:00 AM in multi-purpose room 6 at the library.

This group suicide prevention training is essential to suicide prevention education. You will learn:

- ✓ How to recognize the warning signs of a suicide crisis.
- ✓ How to question, persuade, and refer someone to help.

Participants will receive a certification as a QPR Gatekeeper upon completing the training. To register please visit the library's website:

<https://www.meridenlibrary.org/event/qpr-suicide-prevention-training>

## **End Stigma in Meriden**

End Stigma in Meriden is a campaign created by the City of Meriden in partnership with Rushford as part of our Harm Reduction and Overdose Prevention and Response effort in our city. By breaking the stigma we can connect people to care and support them on their journey towards recovery, because people can and do recover!

For more information, please visit our harm reduction webpage at [www.meridenhealth.com](http://www.meridenhealth.com)

Campaign funding made possible by the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).



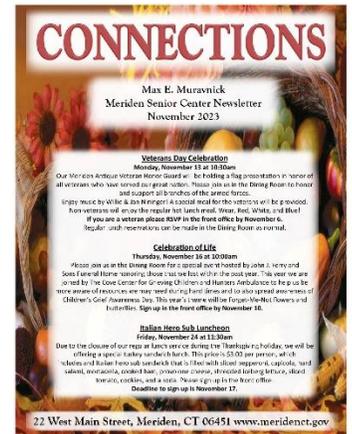
## Meriden Senior Center

The November issue of the Meriden Senior Center Newsletter is now available on our website [here](#). Join us for the following events:

- Veterans Day Celebration on November 13th at 10:30 AM
- Celebration of Life on November 16th at 10:00 AM
- Italian Hero Sub Luncheon on November 24th at 11:30 AM

The Meriden Senior Center is open 5 days a week from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday. Seniors in Meriden age 55 and over are welcome to join us for Bingo, art classes, exercise classes and much, much more.

The Meriden Senior Center is located at 22 West Main Street; parking is available on Hanover Street. Please call the Senior Center at (203) 237-0066 for more information.



## School Readiness

Meriden School Readiness provides affordable, quality childcare slots for 3 and 4 year old children living in Meriden. Programs provide children with a School Readiness experience that can assure they will enter kindergarten ready to learn.

If you are interested in learning more, please call Rhonda Knight, School Readiness Coordinator, at (203) 630-4222 or email her at [rknight@meridenct.gov](mailto:rknight@meridenct.gov). Or, you can fill out the Google form on our website and we will contact you: <https://www.meridenct.gov/city-services/social-services/meriden-school-readiness/>.

